## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Hidekazu Kawashima, et al.

Serial No.:

Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit:

Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date:

Concurrently Herewith

Examiner:

Unknown

For:

METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PRODUCING LAYOUT PATTERNS OF A

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING AN EVEN WAFER SURFACE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following document listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. A copy of the listed document is provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), the relevance of this document is discussed on page 2 of the subject application. Further, an English-language Abstract is attached to the reference.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the reference is relevant or material to the claims. It is only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

It is respectfully requested that the listed reference be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,

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## Docket Number (Optional) Application Number NEC03P207-SYa Not Yet Assigned · INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) Applicant(s) Hidekazu Kawashima, et al. Filing Date Group Art Unit **Cocurrently Herewith** Not Yet Assigned U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS EXAMINER REF DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE FILING DATE NAME CLASS SUBCLASS INITIAL IF APPROPRIATE FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS REF DOCUMENT NUMBER Translation DATE COUNTRY CLASS SUBCLASS NO 11-176941 07/02/199 Japan OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.